

(b) and (c). Comments on the issues raised in the news-item have been called for from the University of Delhi and any further action in the matter would be possible after the same are received.

[Translation]

Unite of IIT in Maharashtra

1463. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some more units of Indian Institute of Technology in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Funds for National Highways to Maharashtra

1464. SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for low allocation of funds for National Highways in Maharashtra during Eighth Five Year Plan, as against the demand made by the State Government;

(b) whether the per k.m. average allocations are same for Maharashtra as against the other States;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase these allocations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). The development of National Highways is a continuous process. However, the funds available have been about 40% of the requirement. As such the demands of all the States including that of Maharashtra could not be fully met. During the VIIIth Plan, a sum of Rs. 132.74 crores has been allocated to Maharashtra State.

Road Projects to Private Sector in Maharashtra

1465. SHRIMATI JAYSHANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has

sought approval of Union Government for handing over Road Development projects to private sector;

(b) if so, the details of each project;

(c) the names of the schemes approved by the Government along with the details of their cost and terms and conditions; and

(d) the details of the schemes pending, reasons therefor and the time by which the schemes will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The list of such projects is annexed.

(c) So far only one project i.e. Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass has been approved by the Union Govt. with concession period of 7 years and 8 months and user fees as follows :

(i)	Motor Car/Jeep etc.	Rs. 10/-
(ii)	Buses/Truck etc.	Rs. 30/-
(iii)	Heavy Machinery like dozers, crane and Earth Movers etc.	Rs. 40/-

(d) Proposals are at various stages and it is too early to indicate a time frame for their approval.

STATEMENT

Roads Projects to Private Sector in Maharashtra.

S.No.	Name of the Project
1	2
1.	Construction of Panvel bypass on N.H. 4.
2.	Construction of major bridge across Patalganga river near Kharperda village in Km. 16/400 of PMP road.
3.	Four laning of NH-4 B.
4.	Construction of major bridge across Wainganga river in mile No. 39/1 (Km. 491/0) including approaches on Raipur Nagpur section of NH-6 near Bhandara.
5.	Four laning of road between Vadgaon to Lonawala Km. 34/0 to 61/600 and Lonawala Khandala bypass between Km. 61/600 to 67/785 on Mumbai-Pune road.
6.	Strengthening existing two lane from Tapi bridge at Dabhashi to Km. 233/0 of Mumbai-Agra road NH3 i.e. construction of ROB in Km. 228/0 at Nardhana and its approaches on NH-3 in Dhule Dist.
7.	Construction of Palghati bypass and strengthening existing two lane payment on NH-6 from Km. 442/0 to 465/0 in Jalgaon Distt.

1	2
8.	ROB with approaches at Km. 399/0 near Fekari village and Km. 418/80 near Nashirabad village including strengthening Km. 400/200 to 428/00 on NH-6 in Jalgaon Distt.
9.	Construction of R.C.C. flyover bridge on Westernly diversion outside Pune city on NH-4 at Warje junction in Km. 27/160 to 27/680.

Radical Changes in Higher Education

1466. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating radical changes in the higher education/University system to make it flexible enough to adapt to the desirable changes allowing partial privatisation of Universities or introducing changes to make higher education self-financing by encouraging industry-University interactions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Experts Committee have made certain recommendations on desirable structural changes in higher/University education pattern in the wake of economic liberalisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed thereon;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to set up international University to cater to the needs of NRIs and foreign students from developing countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). In November, 1992, University Grants Commission (UGC) had appointed a high-powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice K. Punnayya to, inter-alia, suggest specific measures for mobilisation of additional resources by the universities. The Committee has made several recommendations in this regard, which include the following :

- * Quality, efficiency and innovativeness must be consciously rewarded and institutions failing to improve financial and academic discipline should face disincentives.
- * From the Ninth Plan onwards, grants should be related to unit cost of activities as a rule, except for new programmes for which unit costs are not determined, or would be difficult to determine.

- * Heavy subsidies in many of the activities covered under maintenance grant have to be reviewed and reduced to a substantial extent.
- * Expenditure due to increase in the number of staff has to be reviewed and curbed firmly wherever necessary.
- * Development grants should be linked to an academic audit system and performance indicators to be developed by each university.
- * The student teacher ratio should be 1 : 12.
- * The teaching to non-teaching staff ratio should be brought to 1 : 3 and employees like gardeners, safaiwalas, watchward etc. be engaged on contract basis to the extent possible.
- * The tuition fees may be revised upwards with immediate effect and may be periodically adjusted, keeping in view the rate of inflation.
- * Fees for library, laboratory, sports should be revised upwards to recover a significant part of the recurring cost.
- * Hostel fees should be revised with immediate effect to meet all the actual recurring cost and in due course of time, a part of capital cost as well. The student community should be involved in the discussions to raise resources where their interest are affected.
- * The income derived from enhancement of fees should be utilised to augment fellowship and scholarship programmes for ensuring access to weaker sections.
- * For generating income, the universities should let out their infrastructural facilities like playgrounds, auditoria etc. and also organise short-term courses for which there is demand. They should also solicit endowments, contributions and actively participate in consultancy, without affecting the academic activity of the institutions.

According to the information furnished by UGC, the Report of Punnayya Committee, together with the views of UGC thereon, has been circulated to the Central/State/Deemed Universities as also to the State Governments/UT Administrations for implementation of the recommendations relevant to them.

Government has introduced "The Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 1995" in the Rajya Sabha to provide for establishment of self-financing private universities in the country and to regulate their functioning by enacting an enabling legislation on the subject.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.